## THE DANCING MASTER

By RUBY AYRES Author of "The Phantom Lover," "A Bachelor Husband," "The One Unwanted," etc.

## THIS BEGINS THE STORY

Elizabeth Conycrs, a demure country girl, pretty in spite of her old-jashloued dowdy dressing, is visiting jashloued towdy dressing, is visiting jashloued ball she is a disconsolate wallfower. A handsome young man asks her to dance and she has to conjess she knows none of the up-to-date steps. He is Pat Royston, and teaches Elizabeth to dance. Her snobbish aunt and cousin rebuke her, as he is only a dancing master. Elizabeth hears her uncle, with whom she made her home in the country, is dead. She is met by Walter Sneath, a solid but not very vivacious country lad, who loves her and proposes marriage in her plight. She refuses him and determines to go to London to carn her living by dancing on a legacy of £100 her uncle left her. She is grudgingly taken in by her

## AND HERE IT CONTINUES Dolly Borrows Elizabeth's Money GOU do look tired," Elizabeth said. Y "And-why are you carrying said,

your slippers?" come up to you, so I took them off." spare time to come to a shop with me. "Nonsense!" said Mrs. Maso

"Elizabeth, have you ever been in trouble-dreadful trouble?"

Elizabeth shook her head.
"No-1 don't think so," she said.
Dolly leaned forward; there was a

hard look in her eyes. "Well, I am now," she said. She well. I am now," she said. She gripped Elizabeth's hand in both her own; they were hot and burning.

am. and you've got to help me."

In spite of the bold determination with which she had come to London, she was more than half afraid to venture out by herself, but, as the after-

eighteen years, and so it seemed preposterous that she should have expected him to remember her in his will.

"He was my uncle as well as yours."

Dolly said defiantly. "He might have left ne something if he left you a hundred pounds. It drives me wild to think of all that money going to a wretched that was on the rocks? "Whatever you do never get into debt." Both Mr. Junkers and Walter Sneath had impressed that upon her when she hade them good-by, and Walter had added, with a little hoarsening the last night, she was on the rocks? "Whatever you do never get into debt." Both Mr. Junkers and Walter had added, with a little hoarsening the last night, she was on the rocks? of all that money going to a wretched that."

lot of good, don't they?" Dolly shrugged her shoulders.

married him."
"Why don't you, then?" Elizabeth asked.

Dolly stared at her, then sighed.

fercely away. "But you don't want to hear about me." she went on more lightly. "You'll lend me the money. ightly. "You'll lend me the money, Dancing. First Floor."
The color rushed to her face, and her Look here, if you'll let me have £50 heart began to beat fast. This was

mounted slowly to Elizabeth's face till right spot.

she was scarlet to the roots of her hair, and her lips moved twice before she falling heavily, and there was nobody in could frame any words.

Dolly made an impatient gesture. "Don't be silly! You do, I know you do. Why have you come to Lonon to learn dancing if you don't want

Inding. She was a dark-haired smartlooking girl, with rather a short skirt
learn dancing with him. But—if
you're really in trouble I can let you
have £25 if you will pay me back. If
I was rich I'd give it to you gladly,
and more besides, but that hundred is
all I have got in the world."

"I said I would pay you back; surely
you can trust me?"
Edozabeth answered simply. "If I ambition.

Dolly gave a sigh of relief. "You she blurted out: know you look quite pretty with your hair down," she said condescendingly.

mother, will you?

"Good night, then."
"Good night."
But after Dolly had gone, Elizabeth could not sleep; she lay staring into the darkness, haunted by her cousin's

'I'll take you to tea where you will meet Pat Royston again."
And she had refused! She could almost hear the heavy thing in her life as she was of meeting why had she refused? She wanted Pat Royston. She stood for a moment

wanted more although that morning down the stairs and out into the street.

At Paddington he had deliberately It was still raining, but at first sh

of friendship.

But if Elizabeth had imagined that the little confidence Dolly had bestowed on her overnight was to make any difference in their relationship the following day she was mistaken.

and looked desperately round to all only round to an object of the opinion opinion of the opinion op

belig was just as offhand and con-seconding as ever, and Elizabeth's

heart swelled with a sense of bitter in-

Neither her aunt nor cousin appeared at breakfast time, and Elizabeth passed a lonely morning. At lunch time, when they both came

Elizabeth asked, when she saw that it was hopeless to expect to be considered by either of them.

and they were both dressed ready to

Mrs. Mason looked at her sharply.
"My dear girl, are you a buby that you expect to be amused during every moment of the day? Go for a walk or find a book; there are plenty in the

"If you're any good at needlework you might mend the frock I wore last night," Dolly said, as she pushed back her chair and rose. "It's on my bed; I tore it on a nail in the car." She walked out of the room without wait-

ing for a reply.
Elizabeth looked at her aunt.

"I wanted to buy some clothes," she I "And—why are you carrying said, with a feeling of desperation.
"My clothes are awful! I know you
"I didn't want mother to hear me think they are, so if you could just Dolly sat down on her cousin's bed. and for a moment there was silence: enough for the present. If you take then she said in a desperate kind of a situation-as, of course, you will have to-you'll only want the plainest frocks and things."
Elizabeth did not answer, but when

her aunt had gone she clenched her hands.

"I will not stay here: I will not." she told herself passionately. But she did not know how to escape.

own; they were hot and purman, am, and you've got to help me."

"I" Elizabeth thought she was noon wore on, the silence of the house grew more unbearable, and at last, in desperation, she put on her hat

she asked, amazed.

"Lend me some money: you've got a hundred pounds, I know, and you can afford to lend me some of it. I'll pay you back—I swear I will—and I must have it. I must have it by tomorrow, and I daren't tell mother: she'd be furious—she'd half kill me if she knew. I'm in debt, and if I don't pay I don't know what will happen. I'llizabeth, you're not going to refuse! I thought Uncle Robert would have left us something—it would have been in the some down in the country. She looked in the show windows and left us something—It would have been all right then—the mean old beast."

"Uncle Robert!" echoed Elizabeth blankly. She knew that Dolly had only seen her uncle once during the last said last night, she was on the rocks?

bespital—20,000 pounds, wasn't it?"

Yes." There was a painful silence: think of him and yet she did not in the then Elizabeth said: "Hospitals do a least regret what she had done. Already he and his love seemed to belong Dolly shrugged her shoulders.

"Oh, I suppose so, but they couldn't have wanted the money as bad as we do. You may not believe it, but we're thin; she looked around for shelter. A do. You may not believe it, but we're thin; sne looked around for shelter. A not he rocks, mother and I; that's why she's so wild with me about quarreling with Neil Farmer; he's rich, you know. He could set us both up for life if I rain which was teeming down now in a regular April shower.

## Elizabeth A. Dancing Goes

It was a big house, with a number "Why not?—goodness knows! Because of brass plates on the door; various of-lim a fool, I suppose." Tears came into her eyes, and she winked them. Elizabeth supposed, as she looked interestedly at them; then her attention into her eyes, and she winked them.

fercely away. "But you don't want was caught by a smaller plate a little went on more below the rest:

I'll take you to tea one afternoon where you can meet Pat Royston again." what she wanted, if only she dared go in and make inquiries. Surely it was There was a sharp silence; the blood | Fate that had brought her so soon to the

The big door of the house stood Then she said: "I—I don't want to invitingly open, and a wide flight of meet him, thank you."

Elizabeth felt very much as she might Dancing been a dentist's where operations were carried on without anesthetics. For some minutes she stood to meet him? My dear, I can see theties. For some minutes she stood through you; I wasn't born yesterday, irresolute, afraid and trembling; then, If it's mother you're afraid of, she with a sudden desperate spurt of cour-won't know: I'll work it for you, and uge, she turned and ran up the wide

won't tell any one." stone staircase,
Elizabeth drew her hand away. She lier courage had deserted her before felt bitterly ashamed, because she knew that there was a tinge of truth in what Dolly had said, but she answered steadily:

she reached the first floor, and it is improbable that she would have gone on had not one of the doors above opened and a girl come out onto the Thank you. I don't want to meet landing. She was a dark-haired smart-

Edozabeth answered simply. "If I ambition.

But she felt tongue-tied and stupid, and it was only when the girl asked:

"Can't I do anything for you?" the

"I want to learn to dance." hair down." she said condescendingly.
"Why do you screw it up so? It looks frightful." She rose, stretched her white arms and yawned.
"Well, when can I have the money—tonight?"

Elizabeth hastested. "Its row rown."

But through a girl's eyes wandered over her with the faintest amusement; then:
"Will you come in?" she said, and Elizabeth followed her into a little room, which led again into a larger one, the door of which was half closed.

But through a girl's eyes wandered over her with the faintest amusement; then:
"Will you come in?" she said, and Elizabeth followed her into a little room, which led again into a larger one, the door of which was half closed. Elizabeth hesitated. "If you really want it," she said at last. "I've only got f50 with me; Mr. Junkers would not let me have it all at once. I will she found herself alone.

Her first thought was of flight, but

Her first thought was of flight, but she fought the inclination with all her She thrust her hand beneath the pil-low and brought out a wad of notes. Bells stand by the stand of notes. Bells stand by the stand of notes. Bells stand by the stand of notes in the stand of notes in the stand of notes. "Heavens! Do you carry it about Fortunately there were no mirrors in the you?" she asked.

"Heavens! Do you carry it about with you?" she saked.
"I thought it safest," Elizabeth explained.
She counted half the notes into her cousin's hand, and Dolly tucked them away into the low bodice of her white and silver frock.
"You're a dear," she said; "and I'll pay you back the very minute I can, you may be sure, and—you won't tell remom, or the last of her courage would certainly have fied, and it was only a few seconds before the dark-haired girl returned.
"Please sit down," she said, as Elizabeth rose nervously. "I won't keep you waiting long; Mr. Royston will be disengaged in a few minutes."
"Mr. Royston!" said Elizabeth faintly. The blood rushed to her face in crimson patches, and a look of distress

crimson patches, and a look of distress filled her eyes. "I can't"—— she began, then stopped with the dreadful feeling that she had been caught in a

The dark-haired girl seemed not to notice. She was intent on a book she held, and, after a moment, she went off again into the next room, from which came the sound of music, and Elizabeth was left alone.

beating of her heart in the darkness.

Why had she refused? She wanted to see him—there was nothing she turned and fied the way she had come, wanted more although that the street. It was still raining, but at first she "I am glad I refused," was her last thought before she fell asleep, trying to comfort herself with the thought that perhaps after all things would not be so bad now Dolly had made overtures of friendship.

It was still raining, but at first she hardly noticed it, and it was only when the drops began to drip from the brim of her hat that she realized that she was wet to the skin.

It was getting late, too. She stopped and looked desperately round for an omiting out at first she hardly noticed it, and it was only when the drops began to drip from the brim of her hat that she realized that she was wet to the skin.

icab coming slowly up the road

CONTINUED TOMORROW

THE GUMPS-Uncle Bim at Bat

MINCLE BIM ON THE STAND - HE



Q- MR. GUMP, HOW LONG HAVE YOU KYOWN THE PLAINTIFF IN THIS ABOUT TWO YEARS -I AM HANDING YOU A LETTER UNDER DATE OF OCT. 25, 1921-DID YOU RECEIVE THIS LETTER?

Q - FROM WHOM ? A - MRS ZANDER -Q - HOW DID YOU RECEIVE IT? BY MAIL-MHERE ? IN AUSTRALIA -

I DID -

READ IT IN COURT -DEAREST BIMBO:-

I THOUGHT OP YOU LAST NIGHT DEAR -I WENT TO SEE A SHOW CALLED THE CONQUERER- I COULDN'T HELP BUT CONNECT IT WITH YOUR LIFE - YOU REMIND ME OF SOME HUGE ROCK IN THE SEA OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE -

I PRESENT THIS LETTER

AS EVIDENCE AND WILL

TOWERING ABOVE ALL ELSE - THE GIBRALTAR OF FINANCE ON WHICH THE WAVES OF COMPETITION DHA TOSWEDUW MOSTIBMA DHA MAD, STRIKE ONLY TO BE BEATEN BACK INTO BUBBLES AND FORM-

SINCERE - DO YOU REMEMBER . THE WIGHT AT THE BLACK CAT-AT BILL DEWLY'S PARTY? WHEN YOU DREW MY PICTURE ON MY FAH? AND INSCRIBED IT "MY HEAVEN EYES"? NO MATTER WHAT THE FUTURE MAY BRING FORTH THAT NIGHT WILL ALWAYS BE ONE OF THE TENDEREST MEMORIES OF MY LIFE - AND DO YOU REMEMBER (TLL BET YOU DON'T WHEN YOU SCOLDED ME FOR DANCING WITH CHARLEY THOMPSON? YOU KNOW I MADE BELIEVE I WAS HURT BUY I PEALLY LIKED THE THOUGHT THAT YOU JUST MIGHT BE JEALOUS -YOU GREAT BIG WONDERFUL MAN OF DESTINY - AND I AM WONDERING IF WAY DOWN DEEP IN YOUR HEART YOU

ARE SINCERE OR WHETHER IT IS JUST A PASSING FANCY - ANY HOW AM GOING TO SIGN MYSELF .

YOUR HEAVEN EYES MRS ZANDER TESTIFIED SHE DID MRS ZANDER TESTIFIED SHE DID
NOT LEARN TO LOVE YOU UNTIL
SHORTLY BEFORE YOU BECAME
ENGAGED ON THE 13TH OF
MARCH - THIS LETTER WAS
WRITTEN LONG BEFORE THAT
TIME, WAS IT NOT-?

- 24W TI -A

Q - YOU HAD EVERY HONDRABLE INTENTION OF MARRYING MRS. ZANDER, HAD YOU NOT WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND? I FOUND HER DIARY-

Q - WHAT BECAME OF THIS DIARY? A - I MAILED IT TO HER -Q - WHY DID YOU MAIL IT TO HER?

A - I MAILED IT WITH A LETTER EXPLAINING MY REASON FOR NOT APPEARING AT THE CHURCH ON THE DATE SET FOR THE WEDDING -

Q - WAS THERE ANYTHING IN THIS

DIARY PERTAINING TO YOU A- THERE WERE SOME VERY

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY UNCOMPLIMENTARY? A- THE THINGS WRITTEN THEREIN PROVED TO ME

CONCLUBIVELY THAT BHE DIP NOT LOVE ME BUT WAS MARRYING, ME FOR - YJNOM YM FTER QUOTING VARIOUS PASSAGES FROM THE DIARY ATTORNEY HOVEY TURNED OVER

THE WITNESS TO

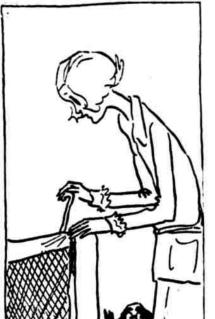
THE PROSECUTION

FOR CROSS EXAMINATION -~~~~~~ IT WAS A BIG DAY FOR ANDY-IT WAS UNCLE BM'S ROUND BY A LARGE MARGIN-

SIDNEY SMITH

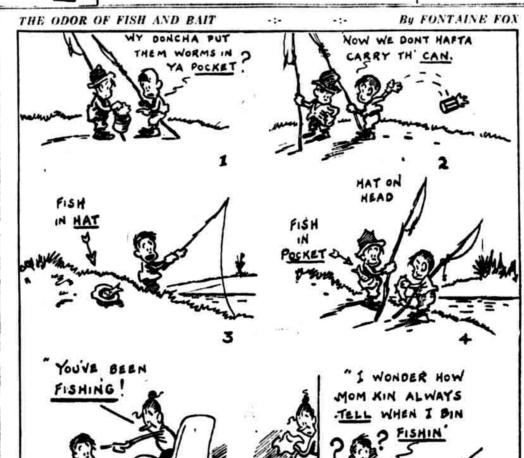
By Hayward

SOMEBODY'S STENOG-The Eyes Have It! Registered U. S. Patent Office WELL -GO ON - WHAT WHY POPPER! THAT BOY YOU GOTTA WERE YOU SAYING HERE'S THE PIE ABOUT MY EYES? WOULD RUIN MY CUT OUT THIS YOU TELEPHONED HANDS! I MUST MASH BUSINESS GOOD! KEEP UP APPEARANCES THE BAKERY FOR WITH MY STENOG GOOD: WITH MISS O'FLAGE AND GET TO WORK, FOR YOUR SAKE, LOOK GO DOWN TO THE DID YOU EVER USE STOCK ROOM AND SQUEEGEE MAIL PACK THEM IRON 7 PASTE ? ITS BOLTS, SPLENDID!



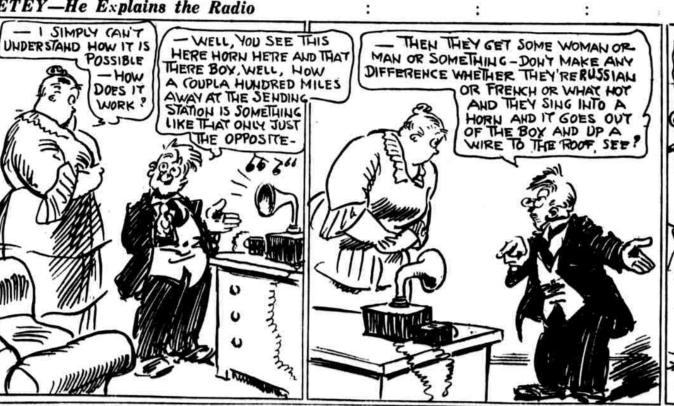
The Young Lady Across the Way

The young lady across the way says she's for the soldiers' bonus all right but thinks there ought to be a taxidermic provision.



A F HATWARD By DWIG SCHOOL DAYS GOT ER

PETEY—He Explains the Radio





NOW THEY SAY THAT BUGS

HAD BEAUTIFUL

RECIEVING STATIONS

ARE PULLY EQUIPT BROADCASTING &

By C. A. Voight - ISUY - I'M SO STUPID ABOUT IT WONDER-THOSE THINGS - 1 \ 184 FULL - HOW-MY HUSBAND WERE HERE HE EVER DOES COULD TELLYOU -IT WORK EXPLAINED IT TO ME THE OTHER DAY BUT I'VE FOR COTTEN - MEN KHOW SO MUCH MORE. ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING ?

5-17

By King

GASOLINE ALLEY-More to Be Pitied Than Blamed



AND THEN, MR. FISH, WHEN

WE GOT OUT INTO WYOMING

RAN OUT OF GAS -DIDN T HAVE A BIT OF TROUBLE!

A WHEEL DROPPED

OFF AND WE WIRED

IT ON AND OUR JACK

OUT A BRAKE AND

BUSTED AND WE BURNED

HEAD OFF TO SEE US OUT IN THE POURING RAIN WEATHER AND NO BEING SNAKED OUT OF MUD AT ALL! A MUD HOLE BY A TRACTOR AS BIG AS A HOUSE! GOSH IT WAS RICH!

YOU O LAUGHED YOUR

POOR FISH! I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM! HE NEVER HAS ANY FUN